AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend paragraph [0034] as follows:

[0034] FIG. 2C illustrates a partial disambiguation portion of the method. This shows how the method operates when more than one node is lit by the user input in step (306). We will continue to follow the tax example starting at the beginning of the prompting process to illustrate the operation of the method. The focus node to start is the Tax Info node (208). The system starts by prompting the user: "This is the IRS help system. What can I do for you?" (302). The user responds: "I need to find out more about tax shelters." (304). Based on the user utterance, the method establishes two lit nodes 230 and 240 for tax shelter information. The answer to the inquiry in step (308) is no, since there is not a single direct descendent of the focus node 208 that is lit. The method next finds the lowest common ancestor node of all lit nodes and sets it as the focus node (312). This is accomplished in the tax example by establishing the business node 216 as the new focus node since it is the closest common ancestor to the lit tax shelter node 230 and the lit tax shelter node 240. After step (312), the method prompts the user to disambiguate between descendent nodes of the focus node (318) as follows: "Are you a small business, or a mid-to-large sized business?" The user responds with "A small business." (304). Based on the user utterance, the system establishes at least one lit node and a new focus node (306). The new focus node is the small business node 226. This node is also lit. The tax shelter node 240 has been "cut" [[sine]] since the mid-to-large business category associated with the node 228 is specifically ruled out based on the interchange with the user. The lit tax shelter node 230 is a single direct descendent of the focus node 226 (step 308). The tax shelter node 230 is made the new focus node in step (310) and the method determines that the lit focus node 230 is a leaf node in step (314). Thus, disambiguation is complete (316).